

PATENT
Attorney Reference No. 2151-57066

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Dubelsten et al.

Filed: Herewith

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
CONTINUOUS FORMATION OF
COMPOSITES HAVING FILLER AND
THERMOACTIVE MATERIALS, AND
PRODUCTS MADE BY THE METHOD

Date: March 8, 2001

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as requested below before this application receives substantive examination.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 26-31 and 66-72 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to file continuing applications directed to the features of the cancelled claims.

Please add the following new claims:

--73. The apparatus according to claim 1 and further comprising a surface modifier for surface modifying at least a portion of a surface of the composite.

74. The apparatus according to claim 73 where the surface modifying apparatus operates by flame oxidation, corona oxidation, e-beam, photoactivation, and combinations thereof.

75. The method according to claim 47 where continuously consolidating forms a composite, and the method further comprises surface modifying at least a portion of a surface of the composite.

76. The method according to claim 75 where surface modifying comprises oxidizing at least a portion of the surface, applying an electron beam to at least a portion of the surface, phototactivating at least a portion of the surface, and combinations thereof.

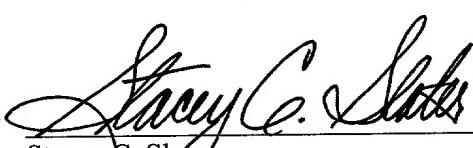
77. The method according to claim 76 and further comprising applying grafting chemicals to at least a portion of the surface.--

REMARKS

The present application is ready for substantive examination. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if any issues would be expedited by such conversation.

Respectfully submitted,

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